



The Transport Workers Union
of America *United Invincible*

Express

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DEMAND CHANGE!

Massive mobilization for jobs, justice
and *One Nation Working Together*



+ Labor's stake in November midterm elections, Organizing victory in
Philadelphia, Text on Washington to save public transportation

make every day LABOR'S DAY

by *International
President*
James C. Little

On Oct. 2 in Washington D.C., the labor movement and its allies showed their determination to get our nation back on track. Called "Putting America Back to Work and Pulling America Back Together," this 10.2.10 mobilization served notice that we're prepared to use this election and the ones going forward to create a better economic environment for working people and all citizens. I'm proud that TWU members played a major role in this demonstration and will do so in the election next month. Please see full coverage of the 10.2.10 events in this issue of the *Express*.

Although it came a month after the Labor Day weekend, 10.2.10 was really Labor's big day this year. For some time now, the official holiday has come to mean picnics, days at the beach and other end-of-summer outings. Working people, who the day was meant to honor, are pretty much forgotten.

But as working men and women continue to be forgotten the other 364 days of the year, it's fair to ask that a day honoring those who helped build our nation and economy isn't something of a sham.

As our battered economy slowly recovers from the years of financial shenanigans, once again workers are being left behind. Those of us with long memories know that a so-called "jobless recovery" has become the norm, not an unusual event.

It can't really be any other way as long as employers continue to shed jobs at every opportunity, sending them overseas to low-wage havens and making fewer workers do more — all in the name of greater productivity and international competitiveness.

Wall Street salutes these leaner and

meaner companies with higher stock prices, then nosedives when high unemployment rates raise the question of who will buy the goods and services that keep the economy moving.

A similar dynamic afflicts our public sector workers when cash-strapped state and local governments cut back as tax revenues decline. Just as workers are consumers, they are also taxpayers with less and less ability to pay for needed public services.

Whether in the public or private sector, it's a vicious downward cycle that our poli-



income. By 2007, the top 1% took in 23.5% of total income.

Dr. Reich's prescription for this is a national policy that gives workers a bigger share of the pie. I couldn't agree more and it's a point to reflect on as we go to our

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ticians are unable, or unwilling, to stop.

In a recent op-ed piece in the *New York Times*, former Labor Secretary Robert Reich noted that this trend has been going on for decades as workers get a smaller and smaller share of the economic pie. The harmful effects were partially offset by the unprecedented entry of women into the labor force (i.e. two wage earner households) and people working more hours. When American families couldn't squeeze any more income out of these two coping mechanisms, they borrowed more money on their homes — until the debt bubble burst.

Reich, an economist, says that even if everyone was employed, the middle class still won't have enough money to buy what the economy is capable of producing. As proof of this growing income inequality, he points to a study showing that in the late 1970s the richest 1 percent of American families had 9 percent of the total

polling places on Election Day.

Workers have always needed to fight for a better life. When Labor Day was first observed more than 125 years ago, workers were also getting the short end of the stick. Things only got better when they took concerted action through their unions and at the ballot box. That's why I strongly urge you to vote for labor-friendly candidates on Nov. 2; And, continue to be involved in politics year-round.

As AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka puts it: "The elections this year come down to a choice between leaders who will stand with working people or those whose right-wing agenda will choke off economic recovery and put corporations back in the driver's seat."

That's the real Labor Day message.

ONE NATION RALLY

— ON 10.2.10 —



TWU members rallied with working people from around the country for jobs, justice and education
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Above: Local 291 members had a 20 hour bus ride from Miami to DC.

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labor day PARADE

Local 234 participated in a huge Labor Day parade and celebration in Philadelphia bringing together TWU members and their families to celebrate the achievements of the labor movement and contributions of working people. 📷



WORKERS AND RIDERS RALLY to Oppose Service Cuts on Long Island Buses



TWU members, allied unions and public transit riders gathered for a rally organized by Local 252 on Aug. 28 at the Mineola Long Island Railroad station in New York to protest proposed service cuts to Long Island Bus and privatization of buses in Nassau County.

"Most people who ride our buses are the less fortunate," said Patricia Bowden President of Local 252. "We should be improving transportation not cutting it. We need MTA to sit down and negotiate."

Local 252 members and supporters gathered to protect their jobs and defend high-quality public transportation that residents of Long Island rely upon. Privatization could lead to more breakdowns, fare increases, and less accountability and quality control.

◀ Workers and riders protest cuts to bus service in Long Island, NY.

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2010 midterm elections: A DEFINING MOMENT

America will be at a crossroads on Nov. 2 with the pivotal midterm elections. One path takes us toward creating jobs and renewing our shared prosperity. The other path means more gridlock and a return to the policies that ran our economy into the ground.

On Nov. 2, Americans can decide to elect officials that will keep moving on an agenda to fix our economy and support working families or put politicians in office who will bring positive reform to a screeching halt. The Obama administration and the Democratic majority in Congress have been focused on putting Americans back to work by investing in infrastructure, such as public transit and clean energy, and helping Americans struggling with shrinking retirement and rising debt.

Meanwhile, the loud minority has stalled proactive legislation and created gridlock. The nearly lock-step Republican caucus has been determined to block anything the Obama administration proposes, including efforts to boost American manufacturing and extend unemployment benefits. They tried for eight weeks to block a bill providing long-term unemployment assistance, a measure that economists say is a much-needed stimulus for the economy. These anti-worker forces in the Congress have cynically decided that obstructionism — whether on healthcare, Wall Street regulatory reform or job creation — is the key to defeating candidates they try to brand as “big spenders.”

The Republicans and their Tea Party have proposed taking us back to the eight years of failed policies under the Bush administration that hurt working people, tanked our economy and embroiled us in costly foreign wars.

They want to make the Bush era tax cuts



permanent for the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans, adding an estimated \$950 billion to the national debt over 10 years. Their policies would make middle-class Americans pay for the mistakes of risky financial speculation by cutting essential services, like transit and education, and allowing companies to cut wages and salaries while CEOs reap millions.

However, let's look at some of the victories we've had in the past two years:

- Congress passed the stimulus package creating 3.7 million jobs.
- Historic healthcare reform legislation that is making strides towards providing all Americans with adequate health coverage.
- The Obama Administration nominated labor-friendly people to key positions, like the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Labor Relations Board.

In order to pass our priorities, like the Employee Free Choice Act and FAA Reauthorization, it will depend on having a Congress willing to take action.

Although Democrats have not fulfilled all their promises and are not a savior for

labor, we need to keep moving our country forward and not give into anger by electing politicians who falsely claim to represent the interests of the middle-class.

We need to mobilize and demand that Democrats hold up their promises and come through for working people, but this will not happen if Republicans take control of the Senate or the House.

Over the past two years, the Republican “Party of No” as well as business-friendly Democrats, have hamstrung the Obama administration. We cannot let disappointment and frustration lead to inaction and apathy, which only helps our foes and maintains the dismal status quo.

As a labor movement, we need to mobilize and make the voice of everyday Americans heard. We began with the One Nation rally and need to carry that energy through the elections and show up at the polls. We will make our power felt on Nov. 2 by voting en masse, but that is the beginning of an ongoing effort to hold politicians accountable to working Americans every day of the year.

For more information on particular races and how to get involved in union political efforts go to: www.aflcio.org

TWU: A MAJOR PRESENCE IN DC IS NOW ESTABLISHED




IT ALL STARTED IN 1934 in New York, led by Michael J. Quill, as the city's transit companies started to take advantage of the workers and the Great Depression affected the nation. Quill, among TWU's pioneers, believed an organized, united front was the only way to win what they wanted; equality and safe working conditions.

But in a new era, there are new challenges and demands to which we must respond.

To do that, after years of planning, we have moved and as of Sept. 13, 2010 we opened our newly, relocated office in Washington, D.C. In Washington we can continue to address the concerns of our members and working America. It will give us a position to create a level playing field as we fight against the anti-labor forces blocking legislative and policy changes. We will also have the ability to better coordinate our alliances with other union transportation affiliates and constituency groups where we share mutual interests.

"Washington is key to legislation, policy, regulations, and funding," said International President James C. Little. "Our profile on these issues is critical. Huge reauthorization decisions that impact our issues are going to be made in this and the next session of Congress."

We will never fall away from Quill's ideals or the priorities of our members because our move to Washington will allow us to be even more "United and Invincible." 

WHY WE FIGHT. WHY WE MOBILIZE.

The State of Working America at a Glance:

1973
27:1

2007*
275:1

RATIO
of average CEO's pay
to typical worker's pay

* right before recession

Unemployment rate:

9.6%

Number of unemployed
workers for every job
opening

5

Total jobs lost since the
start of the recession:

7.6 MIL

Unemployed and jobless for
more than six months:

42%

For one year:

21.9%

Share of retirees receiving more than half
of their income from Social Security:

69%

Jobs needed to regain pre-
recession employment rate:

11 million

Number of workers whose employers
do not offer a retirement plan:

49%

Source: Economic Policy Institute. "Labor Day by the Numbers." September 3, 2010.

TWU FLEXES POLITICAL MUSCLE

for Meek Senate Campaign

Rep. Kendrick Meek is an advocate for working families and union issues and with the help of committed TWU members is campaigning to represent Florida in the U.S. Senate.

TWU Locals 291, 556 and 570, along with other unions in Florida, have been key players in building Meek's campaign for U.S. Senate and propelled him to a Democratic primary election victory.

Meek held an event with TWU the night after his primary victory and gave credit to the dedicated efforts of union activists, saying "labor made this happen." He also visited a transit facility to speak with Local 291 members and thanked them for their support. He plans to visit several other TWU facilities around the state, such as a Miami Airport hangar.

TWU members are at the center of the campaign and have used their expertise and connections to mobilize labor support for Meek. Several TWU members are working full-time on the campaign and helping the State Labor Federation and Central Labor Council coordinate campaign efforts.

TWU member, Jeffery Mitchell, is on leave from his position as Vice President of Rail for Local 291 to be the statewide labor coordinator for the campaign.

Through Mitchell's involvement with the Central Labor Council, he was asked to work on the Meek campaign and agreed because he believes Meek is 100 percent union and has not wavered on important issues.

"I'm doing this to put TWU on the map and at the forefront, to show that we are



Kendrick Meek (center) with TWU members Susan Kern, Andrew Rangolan and Jeffery Mitchell

politically active," said Mitchell.

Joining Mitchell on the campaign are Stephanie Roberts, of Local 556; Michelle McDonald, of Local 525; Andrew Rangolan, of Local 570 and Mike Cernosek, of Local 555. Rangolan is working on communications and Cernosek is a key contact in the Tampa Bay area.

With the support of three locals in Florida, TWU has been a force turning out people to events and recruiting volunteers and leading the labor initiative to get Meek elected. "We bring 50 or 60 people to an event when the campaign staff thinks 10 people is a lot — they have been impressed. They love us," said Mitchell.

As a Congressman since 2002, Meek has supported healthcare reform, ending tax cuts for the rich and passing the Recovery Act. He advocates for creating jobs by



investing in infrastructure and boosting workers' rights through passage of the Employee Free Choice Act and strengthened work safety regulations.

Meek is in a tight race with Gov. Charlie Crist, a former Republican running as an Independent, and the ultraconservative Tea Party supported Republican candidate Marco Rubio.



STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH TURKISH WORKERS

TWU members and affiliates of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) held protests around the globe on Sept. 1 in solidarity with workers in Turkey who are being harassed for trying to organize at UPS.

TWU Local 100 members, International staff and supporters gathered in midtown Manhattan outside of a UPS store to raise awareness of the human rights abuses in Turkey and call upon UPS to do the right thing. Workers from Australia to Jordan to Hong Kong took part in simultaneous actions as part of the International day of action.

Unlike our Teamster sisters and brothers in America, workers at UPS and their subcontractors in Turkey have no union and over the past few months, workers exercising their right to form a union have been illegally fired and intimidated. Thus, the ITF is calling on UPS to reinstate all fired workers, ensure no further harassment and begin a formal dialogue with the Turkish ITF affiliated road transport union TÜMTİS.



Congress Gets the Message with Text on Washington

The Save Our Ride Campaign took the message of affordable and quality public transportation to the Nation's Capitol on Sept. 22 with the Text on Washington, a massive JumboTron screen outside of Union Station that streamed messages from riders and workers demanding proper funding for mass transit.

sage of H.R. 2746 which will make federal transportation funds more flexible, allowing transit authorities to decide how to allocate funds and use them for operating costs if needed.

"We are out here to continue spreading the message we have been sharing with folks all summer. We will keep going till



Theotis James, TWU International Rep., tells passengers at Union Station to support public transit.

"Please fund public transportation. It is vital to our community," read a text from Donny in Miami.

As people went to and from the busy subway and Amtrak station, they saw messages from Americans who rely on public transportation and videos from the Save Our Ride rallies held around the country. People texted, emailed and Tweeted in their stories of being impacted by service cuts and their support for adequate transit funding.

"We are increasing public awareness and educating mass transit riders so they understand how funding works," said Carl Martin, International Director Transit, Utility, University and Services Division. "We need to allow transit authorities the flexibility to use funds for operating costs, not just buying more buses that sit idle while service is cut."

The campaign is advocating for the pas-

Congress understands they need to fund transit properly," said Theotis James, International Representative Transit, Utility, University, and Services Division.

Over the past year, the Save Our Ride partners of TWU and Amalgamated Transit Union have held rallies in major cities from San Francisco to Cleveland to Atlanta to advocate for affordable transit in response to the national crisis in public transportation with transit systems raising fares, cutting service and laying off workers.

"The fight for quality transit isn't just about transit workers. It's about all of us," said TWU Executive Vice President Harry Lombardo at the Atlanta rally in May. "It's about our cities and our communities. It's the ability for a mother to take her child to day care, or a senior citizen to get himself to the doctor."



TWU Member Runs for State Representative

On Nov. 2nd not only will each of us vote for a candidate on a ballot, but one of our own is on a ballot as well.

Bill Caldwell, of Local 530, is running for State Representative in Missouri and got one step closer to holding office with a victory in the Democratic Party primary on Aug. 3. He will now face Republican Galen Higdon on Nov. 2nd in the general election.

Caldwell has been a stock clerk with American Airlines for over 45 years and has been politically active in the Democratic Party for over 28 years. He is also the chair of the 29th Legislative District.

Caldwell decided to run when the seat, formerly held by a union member, became open. "I retire on Sept. 25th and I saw it as an opportunity to do more for working people and to make my voice heard in a larger arena," said Caldwell.

Caldwell has been part of the labor scene for over 45 years, starting with TWA as a machinist, and has participated with the Legislative committee,

among numerous other committees and positions for Local 530 over the years, which closed on Sept. 24th.

"It expanded my knowledge," said Caldwell about being a member of TWU. "I've made friends and it has helped me politically, expanding my area and powerbase."

Caldwell's campaign platform focuses on transportation, such as the need for high speed rail, public school funding, workers rights such as decent wages and supporting communities. He also believes in working with the other side of the aisle.

"There's no dialogue," said Caldwell about the current state of politics between Republicans and Democrats when it comes to getting things done. "This is the most polarization I've seen in all my life."

Caldwell urged the importance of being aware and involved in politics, whether it's volunteering on a campaign door knocking or phone banking.

"Some people don't even realize there's an open committee," said Caldwell. "Find your local Democratic committee and who represents you."

He credited his volunteers and family for their door-to-door efforts in getting his name and issues out to the public against a more recognized opponent.

He also encouraged everyone to vote and stressed its importance.

"If we don't and they know we don't vote, they will ignore us."

For more information about Bill Caldwell visit www.billcaldwellforrep.com.



BREAKING THROUGH THE GLASS CEILING

In a recent report, the most significant demographic change in the workforce in the past 50 years is the presence of women. These women defy the ancient gender role of being less competent and weaker than their male counterparts.

Proudly, one of our own TWU Sisters has contributed to defying that gender barrier and set an example for women in nontraditional jobs.

In April, Willa Johnson, Secretary for Local 250-A Cable Car Division, became the second woman in the 137-year history of San Francisco's cable cars to become a grip person, once known as "gripman." She is also the first woman officer in the division. The first woman to who work as grip person, Fannie Barnes, retired in 2002.

"I trained more than anyone because they thought I couldn't do it"

—Willa Johnson

"I trained more than anyone because they thought I couldn't do it," said Johnson.

Johnson faced competition from men and comments regarding her "small arms." She spent 30 days training for the grip person position, which requires a lot of upper body strength as well as coordination, skills and precision. She faced a lot of challenges in those 30 days. Also, out of the 180 operators in the cable car division, only five are women.

However, Johnson's story is a prime example of why women and all of labor must continue to take a stance against gender-based discrimination in the work place.



Bill Caldwell with his wife Marie.

LOCAL 504 GENERAL ELECTION

As the midterm elections come to an end on Nov. 2, Local 504 wants to announce the start of their General Elections during the months of February and March 2011. Nominations are held from Jan. 3 through Jan. 27th, 2011.

LOCAL POSITIONS:

- President
- Executive Vice President
- Financial Secretary-Treasurer

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- 3 Board Members from Worldwide Flight Services
- 1 At-Large Board Member from Allied; Triangle, Genesis, Meridian, CAS, KLM, Swissport, United Services, Avport

WORLDWIDE FLIGHT SERVICES

Base Representative

- 1 each from every station within the WFS System

SECTION OFFICERS:

- 1 from Swissport
- 1 from Meridian
- 1 from United Services
- 1 from Triangle
- 1 each from CAS Buildings, 9, 73, and 76
- 1 each from Genesis Aberdeen and Genesis Franconia

All eligible members can submit their nominations by mail to: American Arbitration Association Attention: Election Department 1633 Broadway (10th Fl.) New York, NY 10124-0370

Members can also fax their nominations to: 212-246-2150. Nominations will not be accepted at the Local Union Hall.

Amtrak releases proposal for High-Speed Rail System

Passengers could be traveling between Philadelphia and New York in as little as 38 minutes under a plan unveiled by Amtrak on Sept. 27 to develop high-speed rail along the busy Northeast corridor.

Gary Maslanka, TWU Director of Railroad Division, was on hand in Philadelphia as Amtrak President and CEO Joseph Boardman and the new Amtrak High Speed Rail Vice President Al Engel presented the American High Speed Rail Solution plan. The \$117 billion 30-year plan would put the United States on the forefront of the next generation of high-speed rail technology and create a clean and green transportation system that can handle more passengers and move people quicker.

"The benefits of this vision becoming reality is exactly what America needs, good jobs and an energy efficient-environmentally friendly transportation option that the public has demonstrated it favors and will use," said Maslanka.

Countries, such as Japan and China have super-fast rail networks, but the United States has lagged behind. A large investment in rail will make America more competitive and be a benefit for travelers, workers and the United States' economy. This new vision will create opportunities for TWU members and cre-

ate jobs building, maintaining and operating the system.

Maslanka praised the progressive vision of Amtrak's leadership. "This plan is the type of bold vision needed to advance high-speed rail in America, and reflects the forward thinking and commitment of current Amtrak President & CEO, Joe Boardman, a welcome change from past Amtrak leaders," said Maslanka.

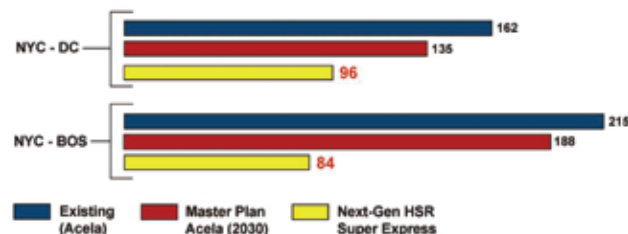
Under the proposal, new rail lines would be built from Boston to Washington, DC with hubs in Baltimore, Philadelphia and

"The benefits of this vision becoming reality is exactly what America needs."

— Gary Maslanka, TWU Director of Railroad Division

NEC Next-Gen High-Speed Rail Travel Times

Travel Times (Minutes)



New York City. Trains would travel at speeds upwards of 220 miles per hour, cutting travel times by at least half. The trains could accommodate 33.7 million passengers by 2040 and generate \$900 million more per year in revenue. As Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell said, "We can't afford not to do it."

ONE NATION RALLY

10.2.10

PUTTING AMERICA BACK TO WORK

TWU members from across the nation joined with 175,000 of fellow union members and activists at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC to make our voices heard for jobs and justice at the historic One Nation rally on 10.2.10.



Thousands from across the nation gathered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to stand for unity and justice.

Buses filled with TWU members descended on the Nation's capitol from Miami to New York, while other members flew in from as far away as Texas, Ohio and Oklahoma. Members from Locals including 100, 291, 556, 504, 514, 2001 and 1460 joined with allies from the nearly 500 supporting organizations, which included unions, civil rights, progressive, student and peace groups, for the rally dedicated to putting America back to work and bringing America back together.

"What a great event to make the voice of labor, the voice of working families and the voice of the nation known," said TWU International President James C. Little. "We are trying to bring the nation together and bring everyone together around the major issues that are near and dear to all of us."

The event was a display of our power and unity and part of an effort to build a grassroots movement going into the midterm elections that unites our country around restoring the American dream and giving people the opportunity to achieve a secure job, a safe home and a quality education.



“What a great event to make the voice of labor, the voice of working families and the voice of the nation known. We are trying to bring the nation together and bring everyone together around the major issues that are near and dear to all of us.”

—JAMES C. LITTLE,
TWU INTERNATIONAL
VICE PRESIDENT

Above: Local 291 from Miami and other TWU members show off their union spirit along the famous reflecting pool in Washington, DC. Right, top: Local 100 members enjoy the historic day. More than 20 buses drove from New York City. Right, bottom: People gathered in the morning to get signs, t-shirts and bandanas to show their support for TWU and One Nation.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZING

TWU was one of the original partners and spent months planning and mobilizing for the rally. TWU staff devoted time and resources to building the coalition, getting the word out and coordinating logistics. International Executive Council members and Division Directors attended the rally and had a meet and greet with the various Locals the night before. For the march, there was TWU International memorabilia to make our support visible, including TWU t-shirts, signs, bandannas, thundersticks, megaphones, stickers, temporary tattoos and box lunches that were available to all members, ponchos were also available in the event of rain.

Labor was a show of force with 150 participating groups, such as UAW, AFSCME, SEIU, CWA, and AFT, joining with organizations, such as the NAACP and United States Students Association (USSA) to bring their members from within 12 hours of Washington to the rally.

“It is time that the voices of hope and change spoke out against the voices of hate and divisiveness which has dominated

the airwaves,” said Roger Toussaint, TWU International Vice President. “This event unites the labor community, human and civil rights community, faith community, lesbian and gay rights, students, and immigrants. The broad spectrum that is America is represented here today.”

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

Union leaders, civil rights pioneers, community activists and workers spoke before the crowd on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial calling for a new direction for America, one that creates jobs, invests in our communities and ensures justice for all— not hate and division.

“Sisters and brothers, we come together today because America needs jobs. Good jobs, jobs that support families — all families,” said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka speaking before the crowd. “Jobs that give our young people paths of opportunity, not obstacles. Jobs that allow people to retire with dignity.”

Other speakers carried the message of jobs and economic justice. CWA President Larry Cohen called for a united movement



to fight for progressive change. Many union members were given the podium and spoke about the need to protect workers' right to organize and the personal impact of the recession.

Rev. Jesse Jackson stressed the need to globalize workers' rights in the face of global capitol. NAACP President Ben Jealous emphasized the connection between civil rights, jobs, gender and sexual discrimination, and immigration.

Simultaneous events were held around the country, such as door knocking for pro-labor candidates and a large rally in L.A., that brought together diverse groups of people to take action and speak out.

BUILDING A MOVEMENT

The One Nation coalition is vocalizing the real issues that are affecting working Americans and calls for sensible solutions such as

funding public services and jobs programs. The message of justice and equality from One Nation provides an alternative to the rising forces of bitterness and division that are trying to portray themselves as the voice of ordinary Americans.

Taking the momentum from this march we will mobilize for the crucial November election and beyond to determine the political future of our country and elect politicians who will get things done in Washington.

Now is the time to demand the change we deserve and take action to turn our economy around, to stop the greed and speculation that tanked our economy leading to the loss of jobs, home foreclosures and cuts in pay and benefits.

Let's build this movement to create a more equal and just future for America.



"This is about getting people back to work so they can earn a living for their families. That is the key. That is the reason we are here."

—DENNIS HALL,
LOCAL 514 TULSA, OK.

LOCAL 291 JOINS FROM MIAMI

A thousand miles could not keep TWU Local 291 from coming to the One Nation rally in Washington, DC on 10-2-10 as a busload of Local 291 members from Miami-Dade County, FL came to show their support for jobs, justice and equality.

According to Local 291 President Talib Nashib, the union wanted to be part of the historic event. "This is about jobs with justice at a time when jobs are being cut and the economy is in bad shape. We are marching to support investment to create jobs through things like transportation and infrastructure," said Nashib.

Members of Local 291 took a 20-hour bus ride to show solidarity with working people from around the country and their dedication to the One Nation movement.

"We are going to take this experience back and share it with our membership. If it keeps going we will come back and do it again," said Nashib.

TWU Joins With the World's Transport Workers!

A delegation of TWU international representatives gathered with transport workers from around the globe at the 42nd International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) Congress in Mexico City from Aug. 5-12 to discuss issues facing the global labor movement and transit industry.

The 2010 Congress, held every four years since 1898, brought together nearly 1400 participants who focused on the theme of "Strong Unions — Sustainable Transport." The theme reflects key issues facing transport workers, including the need to organize globally for strong unions and to solve the global climate crisis by transforming our economies to create more environmentally friendly union jobs.

TWU REPRESENTATIVES

The 760 ITF affiliate unions literally move the world's people, goods and services, representing 4.69 million workers from 154 countries in sections that include all aspects of aviation, commuter and urban public transit, passenger and freight rail, trucking supply chains, and maritime.

The TWU delegation (Director of Strategic Planning Roger Toussaint, Senior Council for Strategic Resources Dean Hubbard, Health and Safety Director Ed Watt, Air Transport Division Deputy Director Robert Gless, and Human Rights Director Sandra Burleson) was very active at the ITF Congress. They intervened in floor debates, gained first-hand knowledge and experience from intense and bitter struggles taking place on transport from around the globe and met with delegations from around the world on our common issues.

Several TWU delegates were elected to

positions in the ITF. Toussaint was elected to the ITF's Urban Transport Committee, which looks after workers' interests in all areas of urban transport, joining representatives from Germany and South Africa. Burleson was elected as a North American representative to the ITF Women's Committee, which will put her at the center of the efforts to organize women into union leadership roles and empower women to secure better working conditions, more rights and equality.

TWU delegates will continue working with international partners on the impor-



Roger Toussaint speaks at a plenary session about social movements.

tant issues raised at the Congress. Watt is helping coordinate a major health and safety initiative being launched by the ITF to support and strengthen its affiliates globally. Gless convened a meeting of the unions representing employees at airline companies in the One World Alliance, and made valuable connections with sister unions around the world, like Jordanian flight attendants who have successfully organized Royal Jordan Air and American Airlines employees affiliated with the Brazilian national airline workers union.

CLIMATE CHANGE

TWU delegates also attended a climate change conference that was held the day before the full ITF Congress that provided a venue for focusing on the important impact of transportation on global warming. Conference attendees supported a resolution promoting the development of cleaner and greener transportation methods that will reduce carbon emissions and the need for a 'just transition' to ensure protection of workers and communities that are adversely impacted by actions to

reduce global warming.

The TWU was widely applauded at the Congress for its forward looking approach to the challenges posed by the struggle to combat climate change and the opportunities it presents to grow jobs and strengthen the labor movement, represented in a statement issued by President Little.

STRENGTHENING LABOR

The Congress adopted a strategy document that covers themes such as basic union rights, addressing casualization and outsourcing, fighting deregulation and liberalization, and meeting the challenge of climate change.

Toussaint addressed the assembled delegates on the vital importance to these strategies of unions building popular fronts that include other social movements. He emphasized how important it is for the labor movement to join with the climate justice movement, perhaps the most important emerging popular front, to advance workers' own interests in creating millions of green union jobs as we solve the climate crisis. He shared



Sandra Burleson, Dean Hubbard, Robert Gless, Ed Watt and Roger Toussaint.

with the delegates how vital it is for other United States unions to join President Jim Little's call to join the 10.2.10 national mobilization for "One Nation Working Together."

The Congress also pledged solidarity with Mexican workers whose human rights are being attacked by the Mexican government and opposition to the killing and repression of trade union leaders and activists in Latin America, Iran and elsewhere.



keeping active on **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The TWU has been active over the past several months working to ensure the health and safety of our members, workers and the public. We have participated in task forces, conducted research and served as delegates to international conferences.

HEALTH AND SAFETY TASK FORCE

This summer the Health and Safety Task Force was busy coordinating a study about Muscular Skeletal disorders affecting our ramp workers. The study, conducted by National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health under the Occupational Health Internship Program, was a first step in identifying the scope of these injuries.

We will now be focusing greater attention on these workers and the causes of these injuries. The study showed that a large number of our workers are injured at work and continue working while injured. We have now established a baseline for the entire industry to use in preventing these injuries.

TRANSIT RAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFETY

The first meeting of the Transit Rail Advisory Committee on Safety (TRACS) of the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) met in Washington, DC on Sep. 9 and 10. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood appointed

the committee in the aftermath of several rail crashes and fatalities to analyze transit safety issues and develop recommendations for minimum national transit safety standards. Ed Watt, TWU Director of Health and Safety, was appointed to the committee and represents labor along with representatives from other unions, including Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) and United Transportation Union (UTU).

Unlike other agencies in the Department of Transportation, the FTA does not have regulatory authority. However, Congress is considering legislation that would grant the FTA regulatory power.

TRACS will not have to develop standards on its own but can build on the expertise of other sectors. One of the committee's two workgroups is responsible for bringing lessons from other transportation sectors as well as experience from High Reliability Organizations, organizations that have avoided accidents in high-risk industries, such as nuclear power. TWU is well suited to this task institutionally because of our diverse knowledge and experience. Our Rail and Aviation divisions have been participating in collaborative rule making for two decades and are eager to share that experience.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

At the International Transport Workers Federation Congress this summer, health and safety items were on every work plan. TWU will assist in coordinating health and safety research, training, and other forms of collaboration.

TWU is also one of 16 labor delegates to the 2010 US-EU Safety and Health Conference. This conference is a tri-partite meeting with labor, management and government representatives of both the United States and the European community.

NATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEETINGS

The Labor Division of the National Safety Council will hold its annual meeting at the end of September. We are very proud that Mark Johnson, TWU Health and Safety Task Force member, will chair. We will also be providing safety training at the meeting.

On Nov. 8-10 in Baltimore, the TWU will be on a panel discussion of Wellness programs at the International Conference on Commercial Driver Health and Wellness hosted by the Transportation Research Board, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration,

U.S. Department of Transportation, in partnership with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Calling all women transit workers, we want to hear from you.

The TWU is conducting a survey along with the International Transport Workers Federation of women in the transit industry. Go to www.twu.org to get the survey.



TWU ORGANIZING WIN: Workers at Rotem-Hyundai Plant in Philadelphia Join Local 234

Hundreds of workers at a railcar manufacturing facility in South Philadelphia will now have a strong voice in the workplace and collective bargaining rights following a vote to join TWU Local 234 and become the newest members of the TWU.

The victory came after a long and hard-fought campaign to organize the workers at the new Rotem-Hyundai Co. railcar production facility. The 150 workers overcame company resistance to form a union after a majority of workers voted to join TWU Local 234, which represents workers at SEPTA, the public transit system in the greater Philadelphia area. As the workforce expands to 300 in order to meet high demand, these workers will have a union to help them secure decent wages and benefits and will have the power of the TWU behind them to defend their rights.

"Many union jobs have been leaving the Philadelphia area and this victory is a shot in the arm for labor in general. It shows that the largest international corporations who are anti-union and have lots of money can be organized," said Joe Coccio, Local 234 Secretary Treasurer.

Union representation and collective bargaining will help the workers at Rotem-Hyundai obtain better working conditions, higher wages, superior benefits and more respect on the job. Previously, the company was paying below national averages and not providing healthcare, sick leave or pensions — the things union members are able to take advantage of everyday.

"These workers will now have a career, not just a job, that they can rely on to provide for themselves and their families," said Coccio.

MOBILIZING TO WIN

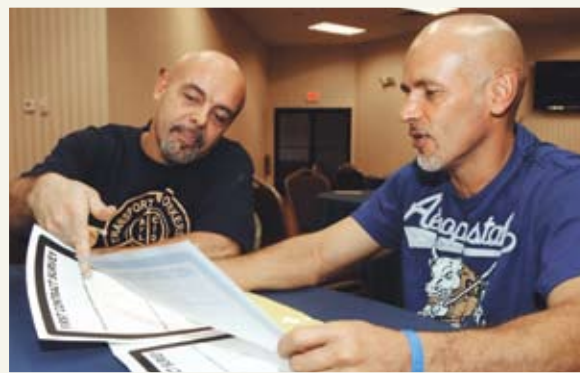
The campaign was a success because of a strong committee of workers in the plant, active participation of TWU maintenance workers who leafleted every morning and the tireless efforts of TWU Lead Organizer Georges Exceus and Coccio in a collaborative effort between the International and Local 234.

The company used strong-arm tactics to scare and prevent the workers from organizing, but the corporation could not weaken their resolve. The TWU is now bringing unfair labor practice charges against Rotem-Hyundai before the National Labor Relations Board. The company also attempted to avoid unionization by using subcontractors, but TWU demanded a joint-employer relationship which means Local 234 will bargain directly with Rotem-Hyundai not subcontractors, so workers' jobs will be protected and not at the whim of changing subcontractors.

"They could outspend us, but they couldn't outwork us. We got the job done. This is a story of David beating Goliath," said Coccio.

GREEN UNION JOBS

The facility on Weccacoe Avenue in South Philadelphia will provide final assembly on new Silverliner V cars for SEPTA trains. These new railcars will help SEPTA provide clean and green public transporta-



↑ Top: The organizing committee at Rotem-Hyundai.
Bottom: Brothers Jose Sanchez and Humberto Sanchez discuss a first contract survey.

tion while creating good green union jobs manufacturing and maintaining the cars.

The organizing drive was part of a strategic decision by TWU and the AFL-CIO to organize the facility that has contracts with SEPTA and to unionize facilities owned by Rotem-Hyundai, one of the world's largest railcar producers. At the request of Local 234, the International helped with the campaign as part of International President Little's strategy of combining the power and resources of the International and Locals around organizing.

Local 234 is now moving forward with securing a contract for the workers and organizing another group, Aero Tech, that has nearly 50 workers at the facility.

Welcome to our new TWU brothers and sisters.

SHOP TWU Find exclusive Union products at our TWU store at shopTWU.com. All merchandise is Union made in the U.S.A.





HUMAN RIGHTS REGIONAL MEETING Hosted by Local 567

The TWU Human Rights Department held its second regional meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on July 27-28, hosted by ATD Local 567, to discuss human rights issues and strategies for promoting equality.

During the two-day session, participants heard from several TWU officers and members of Working Women's and Civil Rights Committees and participated in training related to the theme "Unity, Diversity, Liberty, and Justice for All." The meeting was an opportunity for locals to come together, honor TWU's commitment to equal rights for all people and hear from experts on how to successfully get involved with human rights.

"TWU has always been in the front ranks of the struggle against any form of discrimination whether by religion, race, creed, color, sex or sexual orientation," said TWU Human Rights Department Director Sandra Burleson. "And to remain strong and united, our local

unions must guard the rights of all members. The TWU Human Rights Department is here to assist in achieving this for our local unions."

Many TWU leaders spoke at the meeting including International Vice President and ATD Director Garry Drummond and President of Local 567 Larry Pike. TWU International Organizer Georges Exceus, TWU Director of Legislative and Political Affairs Portia Reddick-White, Administrative Supervisor for American Airlines Jackie Oxendine, and TWU Political Field Assistant and President of the Dallas Central Labor Council Gwen Dunivent also gave presentations.

Thanks to Local 567's Human Rights Committee Chairman and local Executive Board member Danny Gonzalez, Human Rights Co-chair John Johnson, Human Rights Recording Secretary Nan Warren and Teresa Tolbert for helping



LOCAL 571 Celebrates Its 20th Anniversary

Local 571 in Chicago celebrated 20 successful years of representing fleet service clerks at American Eagle with a huge picnic on July 31st.

The event was a commemoration of the union's history and achievements as well as an opportunity for socializing and political organizing. Since forming in 1990 with the help of then International Representative James C. Little, the union has grown from 100 members to more than 700, with nearly 60 of the founding members still involved.

Members were able to have fun with their co-workers and their families and bond outside of work while enjoying

some good food and music. The picnic had everything from a moonbounce to baseball games to raffles.

"Your not thinking about your grievances or what the supervisors are doing," said Local 571 President Rafael Melon. "Today is just to enjoy with the family and have a good time."

The TWU COPE also had a table to sign-up members and to provide information about COPE's efforts to elect labor-friendly politicians and pass legislation that benefits working people.

"COPE is one of those entities we have to have because the labor movement is

LOCAL 556 SEIZES OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTHWEST GROWTH



The Local 556 negotiating committee has reached a tentative agreement with Southwest Airlines over incorporating the new larger

737-800 series aircraft into their fleet that addresses pay and working conditions. The agreement has been approved by the Executive Board and will now be voted on by the membership for ratification.

"We believe this tentative agreement and the process by which it was reached, represents the best of Southwest, which is one of the most successful — and most highly unionized — companies in the airline industry," said Local 556 President Thom McDaniel.

The agreement ensures that the contractual variable pay increase will not be less than two percent; the tentative agreement also calls for company-paid training, the formation of a labor-management committee to address any ongoing work rule issues, and a one year contract extension. The flight attendants represented by Local 556 are excited about the possibilities presented by the larger long-distance planes. This is what we achieve working together as one union.



being swallowed up by big business and who better to have on your side then someone who is going to be up on Capitol Hill fighting for us everyday," said Local 571 Vice-President Tim Nolan.

Congratulations to Local 571.



Local 571 leadership with TWU COPE representatives.



LABOR AND MANAGEMENT Discuss Industry Issues

The 2010 Texas Labor Management Conference (TXLMC), sponsored in part by the TWU along with other unions and airline companies, was held June 30 through July 1 in San Antonio with the theme "Today's Challenges — Tomorrow's Successes — Together We Win!"

The conference was a chance for labor leaders and management teams within Texas to work together to proactively examine ideas for improving working relationships and creating mutually beneficial solutions. This year's conference was co-chaired by TWU International Vice President and Local 556 President Thom McDaniel. "The Texas Labor Management Conference is a great example of the positive results that can be achieved through collaborative working relationships," said McDaniel, who joined the TXLM Board in 2005.

The three-day conference offered several workshops, plenary sessions, social events and a Hall of Fame presentation — including several union inductees. Featured speakers from labor and management gave diverse examples of the challenges they face and included TWU International Administrative Vice President John M. Conley.

Conference chairs L to R: Local 556 President Thom McDaniel, Joe Pyner Senior Manager at Chevron Phillip, TWU International Administrative Vice President John M. Conley



LOCAL 567 OATH OF OFFICE

Newly elected officers at ATD Local 567 in Ft. Worth, Texas pledged their Oath of Office.

From L to R: Rick Grant, Executive Board; Eddie Maldonado, Recording Secretary; Matt Lorenzi, Vice President; Larry Pike, President; Garry Drummond, Int'l Representative and ATD Director; Tony Cava, Executive Board; Robert Kirk, Treasurer; Doug Housley, Executive Board; David Rivera, Executive Board



WWII Veteran Daniel P. Gillespie with the ATD Veterans Committee

WWII VETERANS RECOGNIZED at ATD Vet Committee

On Aug. 17 the ATD Veterans Committee held their quarterly meeting at Local 502 El Segundo Beach, CA Local Union Hall. The committee, as well as Local 502, had the honor of having a War Hero in their presence, Staff Sergeant Daniel P. Gillespie, member of the 42nd Infantry, Rainbow Division and father of TWU International Representative Timothy J. Gillespie.

Gillespie is a decorated World War II veteran who earned the Silver and Bronze stars for his bravery and awareness on the battlefield. He earned the Silver Star for his actions in the battle of Hatten against Nazi Germany, where he informed his Commanding Officer about the ongoing

ing battle and that enemies had crossed through their lines. His unit received a Presidential Unit Citation for the same battle. He was also awarded the Bronze Star for his actions during a firefight in Wurzburg, Germany.

At the meeting, Gillespie shared his stories from how he lied about his age to enter the Army at age 16 to liberating Dachau, a concentration camp, with his troops.

"It was all that was going on," said Gillespie about the war and joining the Army at a young age. "It was an exciting time. I thought it was important to take a stance against the Nazis."

At the end of the ceremony, Gillespie was presented with a bust of an eagle, thanking him for his dedicated service. The inscription reads: "A survivor of WWII. Thank you for your sacrifices made to preserve our Freedom."



AMERICAN EAGLE HERO Award Winners

TWU Members Makaleta Vakauta of Local 575 and Andre Lafabregue of Local 570 were presented with the "American Eagle Hero Award" on Aug. 12 in Montreal. The award is given annually to American Eagle employees recognized for extraordinary actions. TWU ATD International Representative Jose Galarza presented the award on behalf of TWU.

"It is an honor to be amongst colleagues who make selfless decisions for their fellow human beings," said Galarza.

Vakauta, a Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport fleet service clerk, received the award for bravely considering the safety of others in a moment of crisis. She was driving a baggage tractor on a ramp at DFW when the tractor's radiator exploded. The fluid splashed onto her and she jumped off the tractor falling to the ground. She then noticed the tractor going towards an aircraft and sprung to action. She caught up to the vehicle and turned it off, preventing a serious accident that could have harmed customers, her fellow co-workers and the aircraft.

Lafabregue, an aircraft maintenance technician for Miami International Airport, received the award for saving a



↑ L to R: Jose Galarza, ATD International Representative, presents award to Makaleta Vakauta and Andre Lafabregue.

man's life in an Indianapolis airport while Lafabregue was waiting to board a flight with his daughter after a spring break trip.

The man collapsed while standing in line to board with his two grandchildren. Lafabregue ran over and discovered the man was a diabetic according to one of the grandchildren.

Lafabregue noticed the man was not breathing and had no pulse. Then, the man turned blue and Lafabregue administered CPR and with assistance from a bystander hooked up an AED and administered a shock. By the time paramedics arrived and took over the man had a pulse and was breathing on his own. The man survived.

When the Indianapolis police department called him later to thank him, Lafabregue said, "God had a plan and I was routed through Indianapolis for this reason."

WE REMEMBER RICHIE BERMUDEZ



He was a brother, a co-worker, a father to two sons, a fiancé and now, will be known as a hero.

Richard "Richie" Bermudez, Chairman of the NYC Transit 100th Street Depot and Local 100

member, died Sept. 20, 2010 after suffering a brain aneurism on Sept. 17 trying to save a woman killed during a storm in New York.

"He is a true friend, someone who you can really count on," said Barry Roberts of TWU International. "He will be missed by all who knew him on a family, friend or business relation."

Bermudez started as a Bus Operator at the old 146th Street Depot. He then went to Hudson Pier Depot, where his efforts in assisting fellow union members with issues made him well known. He was elected as Recording Secretary of Hudson Pier in 1984, Vice Chairman of Hudson Pier in 1987 and finally, through his dedication to the members, was successfully elected to Chairman in 1995.

He also served as the Safety Representative with TWU Local 100 and because of his knowledge of union contract and his friendliness was elected as Depot Chairman in 2005.

Just recently, Bermudez was honored at the Society of African American Transit Employees Scholarship Dinner Dance and was to be honored in October by the MaBSTOA Division for his 30 years of service. He was engaged to Ms. Esperanza Torres.

"When a good man dies, their goodness does not perish," Roberts said. "RIP my Brother."



Local 101 held their 7th Annual Charity Golf Classic on Sept. 2 in Brooklyn, New York. The event is a benefit for the families of active members of Local 101 who have passed away. This year \$10,000 was raised for each of the families of Harry Clarke, Vincent Morales and Rene Montalvo. Thanks to chairperson Mike Conigliaro, Local 101 Vice President and administrative assistant Angela Green, and all the Local 101 Officers and Executive Board for making the charity event possible.



← L to R: Angela Green, Brue Cox-Exec. Board; Josephine Arroyo - Treasurer; Joe Coscia - Exec. Board; Dawn Alexander-Delegate; Marsha Spinowitz-President; Timothy Arnold; Mike Conigliaro-VP; Constance Bradley-Exec. Board; Steve Mauro-Exec. Board; Frank Cinque-Recording Secretary; Steve Sipp-Delegate; and Jerome Lafragola-International Rep

stepping up OUR GAME

by COPE
and Political
Field Director
Alex Garcia

Corporate America might think its all about the Benjamins, but that way of looking at things couldn't be further from the truth when it comes to our COPE program. While we take pride in increasing the amount and number of voluntary donations from TWU members — we work hard all year to do so — the ultimate value of COPE is mobilizing our members to build their political power and influencing legislation to improve the lives of working people.

That's why the upcoming mid-term elections are so important. At stake is the make-up of the next Congress, which will determine what legislation passes and what bills languish in the next two years. The details of specific legislation, what's included and what's not, are also a function of how many labor-friendly legislators we put in office.

When I recently became Director of what is now the COPE and Political Field Department, we took the opportunity to combine COPE with our political operations in the field at the state and local level. This closely linked our efforts to collect money with TWU's on-the-ground political activities.

In addition to coordinating our efforts with the Department of Legislative and Political Affairs, an important part of our program is our state conferences. As I noted in our last issue, we've been strengthening some long-standing state conferences and helping to establish new ones.

The upcoming mid-term elections are so important. At stake is the make-up of the ***NEXT CONGRESS.***

Our state conferences are active year 'round, not only meeting with legislators and new candidates for congressional and local offices, but lobbying on the issues in that specific region. State conferences help build the TWU's political apparatus and mobilize members to become politically active. A recent rundown provided by Political Field Assistants Gwen Dunivent and Terry Daniels shows a broad sampling of activities.



In California, TWU members lobbied at a Transit Justice Day and have also been meeting with local legislators. Texas TWUers are backing Gubernatorial Candidate Bill White and the ultimate labor-friendly Lieutenant Governor candidate Linda Chavez-Thompson, a former top AFL-CIO officer. The Illinois-Indiana group interviewed several congressional hopefuls.

New Jersey members have been working in coalition to blunt the right-wing initiatives of a new GOP Governor. In Florida, Rep. Kendrick Meek thanked the state conference for its support in helping him win the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate. They also maintain ties with Gov. Charlie Crist, who is running for the Senate as an independent.

So, while money is an easy way to keep score — and we certainly need you to continue to contribute to COPE — we know that the real victory will come when we have enough public officials who have the best interests of working people at heart.

Make Your Voice Heard and Make a Difference

Not registered?

Register here: www.twu.org/international/register



TWU State Conferences are on a roll across the country building momentum and mobilizing the power of Local unions to give workers and TWU members a voice in the 2010 elections and beyond. Local representatives have been coming together to share experiences and knowledge while combining efforts in order to increase their strength.

The state conferences work much like unions — united we are stronger. Locals collaborate at the state level to expand their political clout. The connections and strategies developed at these conferences will be essential for getting out the vote on Nov. 2 and making politicians feel the might of union power.

TEXAS

- Met with Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress Neil Durrance
- Planning weekend block walks for State Representative candidates



Texas Gubernatorial candidate Neil Durrance with TWU members



FLORIDA

- Working on Kendrick Meek U.S. Senate
- Meek visited TWU facilities and talked with members thanking them for their support
- Met with Governor Charlie Crist



L to R: Rickey Thomas, Transportation VP Local 291, US Rep. Kendrick Meek, and Pedro Cruz, Rail VP Local 291.



NEVADA-ARIZONA

- Interviewed over 20 political candidates so far this year, including every candidate in the Democratic primary for Lt. Governor
- Visited with local candidates in the Las Vegas area and officials with the Nevada AFL-CIO
- Met with U.S. Congresswoman Shelley Berkley and U.S. Congresswoman Dina Titus on August 31st
- Held volunteer phone banking for Sen. Harry Reid



U.S. Congresswoman Shelley Berkley with representatives at the Nevada-Arizona conference



ILLINOIS-INDIANA

- Participated in Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Push Coalition Breakfast in Chicago
- Met with the campaigns of two U.S. Congressional Candidates from Indiana, Dr. Tom Hayhurst and Joe Donnelly, on August 2nd



2010 WINNERS OF MICHAEL J. QUILL SCHOLARSHIPS



BOBBY WHITE

Born and raised in Miami by his mother Femi White, a bus operator and member of Transit Local 291 in Miami, FL. Bobby excelled at American Senior High inside the classroom as well as outside on the football and track teams. He will attend the University of Miami where he plans to study psychology.



ALLISON KANE

A native of Maryland, Allison is the daughter of Kevin Kane, a member of ATD Local 510 in Alexandria, VA and a fleet service clerk at American Airlines. She graduated from Glen Burnie High School and was a member of the National Honors Society. Outside of school she enjoys swimming and camping. She will attend Anne Arundel Community College and is interested in education.



MARK SWANSON

A graduate with highest honors from John Hersey High School in Illinois, Mark is the son Paul Swanson, an aircraft mechanic for American Airlines and a member of ATD Local 563 in Des Plaines, IL. Outside of academics he finds time for music and theater, earning a spot on the All-State Honor Band. He will be enrolling at Illinois Wesleyan University and hopes to study biology.



GABRIELLA ANTIGNOLO

She was born in Huntington, NY and is the daughter of Paul Antignolo, a service fleet clerk at American Airlines and a member of ATD Local 501 in New York. Gabriella graduated from Kings Park High School where she was an Honor Roll member and active in theater. She will attend At Sacred Heart University in the fall where she wants to study psychology and elementary education.



JEFFREY WRIGHT, JR.

Son of Jeffrey Wright, Sr., a member Transit Local 291 in Miami-Dade County FL and train operator for Miami-Dade Transit, Jeffrey is an outstanding student and Honor Society member as well as being active in extracurricular activities, like track and football. He plans to attend Florida A&M and is interested in medicine and business.



WHITNEY QUALLS

Born in Kentucky, she now lives in Wisconsin and graduated from Prescott High School. Her father, Richard Nelson, works for Sun County Airlines and is a member of ATD Local 545 in Moon Twp., PA. Whitney earned high honors in high school; she also enjoys music and reading. She will attend the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is interested in studying psychology.



MELISSA IMBRUGLIA

Born and raised in Massachusetts, she is the daughter of John Imbruglia, a retired railroad worker and member of Rail Local 2054 in Boston, MA. Melissa graduated from Braintree High School where she excelled in academics and extracurricular activities, such as theater and athletics. She will study environmental science at Drew University.



DANIELLA D'AQUINO

The daughter of New York Transit Local 100 member Vincenzo D'Aquino, she was born and raised in Brooklyn. Daniella graduated from Bishop Kearney High School where she was a stellar student receiving National Honor Society and Honor Roll accolades. She also enjoys photography and drawing, which she will put to use pursuing a career in architecture at New York Institute of Technology.



KENDRICK RUDOLPH

A graduate of Atascocita High School in Humble, Texas, he is the son of Michael Rudolph, an aircraft simulator engineer for Continental Airlines and a member of ATD Local 541 in Euless, TX. Kendrick was at the top of his class as well as an athlete, artist and musician. He is heading to the University of Texas at San Antonio to begin a career in business.



LEXYS MARTINEZ

A New York native, she is the daughter of Mark Olivieri, a NYC Transit Authority employee and Transit Local 100 member. She graduated from Mahopac High School and was named to the High Honor Roll four years in a row. She was also on the track team. She will attend Siena College where she plans to study international marketing and management.



BRITTNE KREISER

The daughter of Robert Kreiser, a bus driver for the Lewis Central School District and member of Transit Local 223 in Omaha, NB, she graduated from Lewis Central HS in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Brittne was an outstanding student, making the National Honor Society, and still found time to be a star softball player. She will continue her softball career and education at Creighton University where she plans to study sports medicine.



BREANNA SILVA

The daughter of a member of ATD Local 507 in Peabody, MA and American Airlines employee Manual Silva, Breanna graduated from Bishop Feehan High School in Attleboro, Mass. Her hardwork in the classroom

earned her honors society recognition. She played lacrosse, ran track and enjoys music. She will attend Emmanuel College to study science.



QUENTIN CAMPBELL

A native of the Bronx, he is the son of Marvin Campbell, a NYC Transit Authority employee and Transit Local 100 member. Quentin found time for both academics and extra-curricular activities during his four years as an honor roll student at Blessed Sacrament-St. Gabriel High School. He will attend Mercy College in the fall, considering a degree in criminal justice or international studies.



GAWAYNE TAYLOR

A graduate of Grace Dodge High School in the Bronx, Gawayne's father Robert Taylor is a member of Transit Local 100 and works for the NYC Transit Authority. Gawayne was an Honor Roll member as well as a co-captain of the varsity basketball team. He plans to attend Wesley College and study business administration or accounting.



JACQUELINE PALUSZEK

Born in Brooklyn, she is the daughter of John Paluszek who works at the NYC Transit Authority and is a member of Transit Local 100. Jacqueline graduated from Newfield High School in Selden, NY with numerous academic accolades and was a varsity fencer. She will attend Misericordia University where she plans to begin a career as an occupational therapist.

congratulations!



mid-term EXAM

by International
Secretary-Treasurer
Joseph C. Gordon

College students arriving on campus for the new semester are unlikely to be thinking ahead to mid-term exams. But those of us whose livelihoods depend on the next Congress better be thinking now about the fast-approaching mid-term elections. That test of where the country is headed in the next two years is more important than any college exam.

Two years ago, we helped elect a President, Barack Obama, who has been good for working people. Not perfect, of course. But, most of the failure to pass legislation we need and support falls on the shoulders of a recalcitrant Congress.

On one hand, many Republicans cynically block legislation because they loath

ness, health and safety, energy policy and financial reform will languish.

TWU has never viewed the world as “Democrats good, Republicans bad.” We’ve always supported legislators in both parties who support us on our issues, especially transportation issues that directly affect our members’ livelihoods.

We haven’t changed. But, the political landscape has. It’s harder to find Republicans willing to champion issues important to working people. Increasingly, “moderate” Republicans (i.e. folks willing to weigh the facts and vote their conscience) are being shunned by their own party as it moves further to the conservative right.

Make no mistake: these right-wingers will try to dismantle any gains made by average Americans in the last 100 years, whether environmental protections, wage standards, safety regulations and even Social Security. The free-market mantra is often just another way of saying profits at any cost.

It’s sad that a principled Senator like Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, who has teamed with GOP Sen. John McCain on campaign finance reform, faces a challenge from a conservative businessman who has likened Social Security to a “Ponzi scheme.” McCain, who gained respect — and the Presidential nomination — as a maverick willing to break with his own party, was recently forced to mouth the ultra-conservative line to stave off a right-wing challenge in the primary.

TWU leaders never tell members how to vote. We leave it up to you to make up your own minds. Hopefully, some articles in this issue of the Express will give you the information you need.

Study all the facts carefully. Unlike the college kids, our big mid-term exam is now.

If the Republicans gain control of one or both houses of Congress, the country will be virtually at a stand-still for the next

TWO YEARS.

to give the President any victory. Meanwhile, some Democrats are too timid to fight for what they believe in, fearing a backlash from angry voters.

Whatever happens on Nov. 2, Obama will still be President, which means he can veto any really nasty legislation aimed at working people. But, he won’t be able to do much to move the country forward.

If the Republicans gain control of one or both houses of Congress, the country will be virtually at a stand-still for the next two years. That means the recovery from the recession will continue to stall and needed legislation on job creation, tax fair-

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